

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9041

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, OECD, AU

SUBJECT: OECD INVESTMENT PACKAGE; INFORMING THE BUSINESS
COMMUNITY ABROAD

REF: A) STATE 143088, B) STATE 161944

1. E/C COUNSELOR HELD BRIEFING JULY 2 ON OECD INVEST-
MENT PACKAGE FOR TOP EXECUTIVES OF AUSTRIAN SUBSIDIARIES
OF US FIRMS. IN BRIEFING AND IN LIVELY DISCUSSION
SESSION WHICH FOLLOWED, EMBOFFS DREW ON REFTELS AND
TEXT OF AMBASSADOR TURNER'S ADDRESS. TURNOUT WAS GOOD
CONSIDERING SUMMER VACATION SEASON.

2. GENERAL REACTION, WELL SUMMED-UP BY INCOMING
PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN AUSTRIA
(PETER HETZER OF KODAK), WAS THAT PACKAGE WAS BALANCED
AND REPRESENTED USEFUL STEP WHICH US MCNS COULD SUPPORT.
THERE WERE, HOWEVER, SOME CRITICAL COMMENTS. SEVERAL
BUSINESSMEN QUESTIONED VALUE OF COMMITMENT BY GOVERN-
MENTS TO NATIONAL TREATMENT FOR ESTABLISHED INVESTMENT.
THEY MENTIONED, INTER ALIA, WHAT THEY REGARD AS
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CONTINUING DE FACTO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN

FIRMS IN AUSTRIA, PARTICULARLY REGARDING ACCESS TO CREDIT. (IN THIS CONNETION IT WAS ASKED IF AUSTRIAN REP HAD MADE ANY STATEMENT ABOUT PACKAGE AT OECD. EMBASSY HAS NOT SEEN ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENT HERE). CONCERN ALSO EXPRESSED ABOUT THE INFORMATION PROVISIONS OF THE MCN GUIDELINES. ONE BUSINESSMAN FEARED THAT PROVISION URGING BREAKDOWN OF COMPANY DATA ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS COULD BE INTERPRETED AS CALLING FOR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ON AN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY BASIS.

3. EMBASSY HAS OFFERED TO ALERT US BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON OECD INVESTMENT PACKAGE -- ESPECIALLY TEXT OF GUIDELINES -- AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

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